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If the one who would measure lacks in the anatomical and physiological understanding of his work and its aims, his work should be regulated and overseen up to its minutest details by one who has such qualities.

The author ends his able paper by insisting once more upon the fact that "if a numerical expression of conditions, precious in all the sciences, can also occasionally be obtained with a sufficient accuracy in anatomy, respectively anthropology, it is only after a long theoretical, doubled by a technical, preparation of the investigator."

A. H.

The North Americans of Yesterday. — In an attractive volume Mr. F. S. Dellenbaugh¹ has described the Amerind race as it existed before the deterioration began from contact with the whites. The work is based upon a series of lectures delivered before the Lowell Institute of Boston in 1894. The author has adopted a "culture" rather than a "time classification" — in accordance with the present teachings of anthropology. In the introductory chapter popular errors regarding the character of the Amerind are pointed out and the fact emphasized that the whites surpassed them in cruelty. Popular contempt for the Amerind is largely due to ignorance.

Of a fairly uniform physical type, the Amerinds are divided into many linguistic stocks, "as remarkable for their separation in a body from the Old World languages as in their separation from each other." The development of so many languages and dialects must have required a long period of isolation; not only do we find a language for each group, but oftentimes a language for the priestly class and another for the people. By their picture-writing and hieroglyphs the Amerinds illustrate several stages in the development of written language. Southwest of the Sierra Nevadas painted characters are found; painted and scratched, from Colorado River to Georgia; elsewhere in America they are pecked or scratched. The order of development of written characters is, first, mnemonic; second, ideographic; third, phonetic. The last stage was within the grasp of the Mayan stock; they also had a well-developed numeral system.

Among the industrial arts that pertain to savagery basketry is one of the earliest developed, and the Amerinds were conspicuously successful as basket-makers. For the manufacture of pottery a

¹ Dellenbaugh, F. S. *The North Americans of Yesterday. A Comparative Study of North-American Indian Life, Customs, and Products, on the Theory of the Ethnic Unity of the Race.* New York, Putnams, 1901. 8vo, xxvi + 487 pp., over 350 illustrations.

somewhat more sedentary life is necessary, and we find the finest ware among the tribes having permanent settlements. That is, along the Atlantic coast fictile ware was crude and inartistic; in the Mississippi Valley and the Southwest it was of a superior quality. The art of weaving had been developed by many tribes before the Discovery, and a variety of costumes were worn. These are described in some detail, as well as the loom of the Navajos, who are now among the most successful aboriginal weavers. In carving, modeling, and sculpture the Mayas had accomplished results of no mean order. The author also has a word of praise for the carving of the Haidas of the northwest coast. He concludes that all was below the early achievements of the Egyptians. A very good description is given of the Amerindian dwellings and architecture. The range is very wide, from the simple brush shelter of the Pai Utes to the magnificent stone structures of Yucatan. The detailed description of the shelters and other structures shows the influence of environment upon this art.

All Amerinds were, in the stone age of culture, using also bone and wood for weapons. Copper was used but sparingly; bronze was known in Mexico, but not extensively used. Gold and silver were used for ornaments, especially in the South. The most important weapon was the bow and arrow; this is described at length, also the apparatus used in kindling fire. Domestic animals were wanting, and transportation by means of them impossible. Boats, however, were extensively used, and these are described. Other chapters are devoted to "Mining, Metallurgy, and Science"; "Musical Instruments, Music, Amusements, and Games"; "Works and Agriculture"; "Customs and Ceremonies"; "Myths, Traditions, and Legends"; "Organization and Government"; "Origin, Migrations, and History." Mr. Dellenbaugh believes that the tribes of the Northwest migrated there from the South and Southeast and not from the Asiatic direction. The earliest inhabitants of the New World came when there was a greater continuity of land surfaces than exists to-day and before there had been sufficient development of culture to indicate their relationships. The key to the Amerindian culture is the distribution of the glaciers. The earliest tribes came when the northern climate was mild; then, as the relations of land and water areas changed and the cold increased in the North, they were thrown more together and the groups that had begun to form reacted upon each other, tending again toward uniformity of type. The highest civilizations of the New World were developed at the

time of the glacial period, which our author believes to have been comparatively recent, — developed as a result of crowding on account of the habitable area being reduced. If the date of the glacier can be reconciled with that of the rise of Amerindian culture, this hypothesis is well reasoned.

The book is illustrated with several hundred plates from authentic and excellent photographs, chiefly from the collection of the Bureau of Ethnology. An appendix contains a complete list of linguistic stocks and a new list of the tribes. The whole forms a very readable popular treatise upon a generally misunderstood race that is fast passing away.

F. R.

BOTANY.

A Catalogue of North-American Plants. — Mr. A. A. Heller has published a second edition of his *Catalogue of North-American Plants*.¹ The catalogue is intended to be a complete list of the names of the Pteridophytes and Spermatophytes of the region included in the title, and which were published prior to October, 1900. The sequence of genera is that of Engler and Prantl's *Pflanzenfamilien*, the species being arranged alphabetically, and the most important synonyms given. A number of new combinations are published on pages 3 to 8, so we would not expect to find the first publication of names in the list, as was the case in Patterson's Check-List; but if some names have not been overlooked in the preparation of the catalogue, they appear to have been here for the first time suppressed.

It is hardly possible that such a work could be much more than a compilation, though the most recent authority seems to be followed, and no doubt some synonyms are included, and the contrary; also a few Mexican plants appear in the list.

The typography is very good and shows a decided advance over the first addition; but, considering the statement in the preface regarding the presswork, one would not expect to find as many errors as there are. The arrangement of the page is very neat and serviceable. Every other page is left blank for additions and corrections. The whole get-up of the book makes it very fit for use, and it will be exceedingly valuable, if not indispensable, to systematic workers.

The work is an indication of present taxonomic activity. The last species number in the 1898 catalogue was 14,534, and in the

¹ Heller, A. A. *Catalogue of North-American Plants North of Mexico, Exclusive of the Lower Cryptogams*. (2d ed.) 252 pp. 1900.